Docket Number: EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0332
www.regulations.gov

Methyl Parathion
Registration Review Final Decision
September 2010

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Case Number 0153

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Date: 9-24-2010

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I. INTRODUCTION

This document is the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA or the Agency) *Registration Review Final Decision* for methyl parathion and is being issued pursuant to 40 CFR § 155.57 and § 155.58. A registration review decision is the Agency's determination whether a pesticide meets, or does not meet, the standard for registration in the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

FIFRA, as amended by the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) of 1996, mandated the continuous review of existing pesticides. All pesticides distributed or sold in the United States must generally be registered by EPA, based on scientific data showing that they will not cause unreasonable risks to human health or the environment when used as directed on product labeling. The registration review program is intended to make sure that, as the ability to assess risk evolves and as policies and practices change, all registered pesticides continue to meet the statutory standard of no unreasonable adverse effects to human health or the environment. Through the registration review program, the Agency periodically reevaluates pesticides to make sure that as change occurs, products in the marketplace can be safely used. Information on this program is provided at: http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/registration_review/.

In 2006, the Agency implemented the Registration Review program pursuant to FIFRA Section 3(g), and will review each registered pesticide every 15 years to determine whether it continues to meet the FIFRA standard for registration.

Pursuant to 40 CFR § 155.50, the Agency formally initiated registration review for methyl parathion (case 0153). The following timeline highlights significant events that have occurred during the registration review of methyl parathion:

- June 24, 2009 – Publication of the methyl parathion *Summary Document*, *Scoping Document, and Problem Formulation Document* in the docket (EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0332) for a 60-day public comment period. The *Summary Document* also included the preliminary work plan.
- November 4, 2009 – Publication of the methyl parathion *Final Work Plan* and the Agency's response to a public comment received during the 60-day comment period on the methyl parathion *Summary Document*.
- March 29, 2010 – A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed by the Agency and the technical and end-use registrants stated that all methyl parathion product registrations would be voluntarily cancelled. The MOA stipulated the existing stocks provision for the registrations.
- April 28, 2010 – Publication of a Notice of Receipt of requests to voluntarily cancel all pesticide registrations for methyl parathion in the *Federal Register* (75 FR 22402). Two comments were received during a 30-day comment period, but the comments did not result in a denial of the requests for voluntary cancellation.
- July 16, 2010 – Publication of a Product Cancellation Order for methyl parathion in the *Federal Register* (75 FR 41482).

- July 16, 2010 - Publication of the methyl parathion Registration Review Proposed Final Decision Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register* (75 FR 41484).
- July 27, 2010 – Publication of a Rescission of Previously Issued Order and Issuance of Revised Cancellation Order for Certain Pesticide Registrations for methyl parathion in the *Federal Register* (75 FR 43981). This order correctly identifies the effective dates of cancellations for the affected product registrations which were incorrectly stated in the previous order issued on July 16, 2010.
- September 16, 2010 – Closure of the 60-day public comment period on the proposed decision. No comments were received.

II. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Methyl parathion is a restricted use organophosphate insecticide and acaricide registered for use on a variety of food and feed crops, with the majority of use occurring on cotton, corn, and rice. There are no residential uses. Methyl parathion was the subject of a May 2003 Interim Reregistration Eligibility Decision (IRED), and in July 2006, the Reregistration Eligibility Decision (RED) for methyl parathion was finalized upon completion of the Organophosphate (OP) Cumulative Risk Assessment. The most recent human health assessment was conducted in 2002 in support of the methyl parathion IRED, and the most recent ecological risk assessment for methyl parathion was completed in July 1999 in support of the IRED.

After the Final Work Plan was published in November 2009 as part of the registration review process for methyl parathion, the technical and end-use product registrants, Cheminova A/S, Cheminova Inc., and United Phosphorus, Inc., informed the Agency that they were each requesting to voluntarily cancel all of their methyl parathion product registrations. On March 29, 2010, the Agency and the registrants signed a Memorandum of Agreement stating that all methyl parathion product registrations would be cancelled. As specified in the Memorandum of Agreement, all use, sales and distribution of existing stocks of manufacturing-use products will be prohibited as of December 31, 2012. Registrants are prohibited from selling and distributing end-use products as of December 31, 2012. All sales and distribution of end-use products by persons other than the registrants shall be prohibited as of August 31, 2013, except for export consistent with section 17 of FIFRA or for proper disposal. Additionally, all use of existing stocks of the methyl parathion end-use products shall be prohibited as of December 31, 2013.

III. REGISTRATION REVIEW FINAL DECISION

As stated in the Preliminary Work Plan for methyl parathion, the Agency had intended to revise the existing risk assessments for methyl parathion. However, due to the cancellation order issued affecting all methyl parathion product registrations in the United States, the Agency has found that it is not necessary to conduct new risk assessments for methyl parathion and is, therefore, issuing a final decision pursuant to 40 CFR Part 155.53(c)(2) and 40 CFR Part 155.58. The voluntary cancellation of U.S. methyl parathion registrations will become effective prior to the previously planned

completion dates for the revised methyl parathion risk assessments. The effective date of the end of the existing stocks provision included in the cancellation of the last methyl parathion products registered for use in the U.S. is December 31, 2013. The Registration Review Timeline introduced in the methyl parathion Preliminary Work Plan proposed that the Agency would complete the revised risk assessments in January 2014 and issue a decision in 2015.

The Agency does not expect the current risks associated with methyl parathion use to differ from those identified during the methyl parathion reregistration process. In order to mitigate the risks identified in the RED, the Agency specified mitigation measures in the RED, which are already in effect on methyl parathion product labels. The existing stocks sales and distribution deadlines included in the July 27, 2010 revised cancellation order ensure that methyl parathion sale, distribution, and use will decline and then cease entirely in the United States in the future. During this period, given the mitigation measures that are specified in the RED and are currently in place, the Agency believes that existing stocks of methyl parathion products may be used until depleted or until December 2013 without causing unreasonable risk to human health and the environment. Pursuant to 40 CFR § 155.57 and 155.58, the Agency is issuing the *Registration Review Final Decision*, thus concluding the methyl parathion registration review, for the reasons discussed above. The affected product registrations are subject to the terms and conditions of the July 27, 2010 cancellation order (75 FR 43981).